

The Urban District Council of Wigston



A N N U A L R E P O R T

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1961



Incorporating a report on
the sanitary circumstances
of the District prepared
by H. Deamer, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

R.W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

ROBERT WILLIAM KIND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector &
Cleansing Superintendent

H. DEAMER, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

T.H. OWEN

(Resigned 29th November 1961)

Pupil Public Health Inspector

A.P. SHAW

(Appointed 13th February 1961)

Clerical Assistant

Post not filled

Area in acres 3,432

Rateable Value at
April 1st 1961 £263,605

Sum represented by
penny rate £1,102

mid-
Population (1961) 21,990

Number of houses
occupied 7,115

Additional occupied houses
combined with shops 132

Number of houses owned
by the Council 1,277

BIRTHS

Live Births Legitimate

Male 238

Female 239

Total 477

Illegitimate

Male 9

Female 10

Total 19

Total Live Births

Male 247

Female 249

Total 496

Stillbirths

Male 7

Female 3

Total 10

Birthrate per 1,000 estimated
population 22.1

DEATHS

Deaths All Causes

Male 87

Female 81

Total 168

Deaths from puerperal causes

..... Nil

Deaths of Infants under
one year

Male 3

Female 4

Total 7

Deaths of infants under four
weeks of age

Male 2

Female 3

Total 5

Death rate per 1,000 estimated
population 7.6

Infant mortality per 1,000
live births 14.3

Causes of Deaths

Year ending 31st December 19

| Registrar General's Classification | | 1961 | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------|--------|-----|
| | | Male | Female | Tot |
| 1 | Tuberculosis, Respiratory | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | Tuberculosis, other | - | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | Syphilitic disease | - | - | - |
| 4 | Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| 5 | Whooping Cough | - | - | - |
| 6 | Meningococcal Infections | - | - | - |
| 7 | Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - | - |
| 8 | Measles | - | - | - |
| 9 | Other infective and parasitic disease | - | - | - |
| 10 | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 11 | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 12 | Malignant neoplasm, breast | - | 1 | 1 |
| 13 | Malignant Neoplasm, uterus | - | 3 | 3 |
| 14 | Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic and other | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| 15 | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | - | - | - |
| 16 | Diabetes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 17 | Vascular lesions of the nervous system | 13 | 14 | 27 |
| 18 | Coronary disease, angina | 20 | 8 | 28 |
| 19 | Hypertension with heart disease | - | 2 | 2 |
| 20 | Other heart disease | 14 | 12 | 26 |
| 21 | Other circulatory disease | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| 22 | Influenza | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 23 | Pneumonia | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| 24 | Bronchitis | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| 25 | Other diseases of the respiratory system | - | - | - |
| 26 | Ulcer of stomach or duodenum | 2 | - | 2 |
| 27 | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | - | - | - |
| 28 | Nephritis and nephrosis | 1 | - | 1 |
| 29 | Hyperplasia of the prostate | 1 | - | 1 |
| 30 | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | - | - | - |
| 31 | Congenital malformations | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 32 | Other defined and ill defined diseases | 6 | 8 | 14 |
| 33 | Motor vehicle accidents | - | - | - |
| 34 | All other accidents | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 35 | Suicide | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 36 | Homicide and operations of war | - | - | - |
| | | 87 | 81 | 168 |

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Satisfactory progress was made with immunisation against diphtheria.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were three deaths from this disease during 1961. Ten new cases came to notice, their distribution being as follows:-

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis | - | 1 | 1 |

Four cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis came to reside in the district. Thirteen cases are known to have achieved cure and two further cases left the District.

The total number of cases residing in the District at the close of the year was as shown:-

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 54 | 34 | 88 |
| Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| Totals | 56 | 40 | 96 |

B.C.G. vaccination was offered to children of school leaving age and the response was very satisfactory.

POLIOMYELITIS

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued and the response of parents is reasonably satisfactory. This procedure is now carried out by all family doctors in this area.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases were notified:-

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Whooping Cough | 11 |
| Measles | 248 |
| Dysentery | 2 |
| Puerperal pyrexia | 2 |
| Meningococcal infection | 1 |
| Food poisoning | 1 |
| Erysipelas | 1 |

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

No action was necessary under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act during 1961.

A REPORT
ON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE WIGSTON URBAN DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER
1961

H. DEAMER, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent



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1. WATER SUPPLY

Leicester Corporation are the Water Undertakers supplying the Urban Area. During the year the quality of the water has been satisfactory, with the exception, as reported last year, of occasional discolouration. This discolouration is caused by iron oxide washed from the inside of the old cast iron water mains during undue disturbance, such as when sections of the mains are emptied and re-filled during the connection of new services etc. Washings of oxide from the bore of the old mains will continue until the pipes are replaced with new ones treated to resist rusting. The water supplied to the district is soft and does not deposit carbonates of calcium and magnesium, as some hard waters do, on the inner bore of the mains as a "scale" or "fur" which would protect the pipes against rusting.

The Water Undertakers have promised to instal a booster pump plant to increase the water pressure to the Mere Road area until the proposed Oadby High Level Scheme is completed. The High Level Scheme includes the laying of a nine inch main from the reservoir at Oadby to link with the main in Mere Road, Wigston.

Only three houses in the district are not provided with a mains supply within a reasonable distance. These are isolated farmhouses, one of which is to be demolished during the next year.

Thirteen dwellings, including the eleven Almshouses in Long Street, are served by external stand pipes. All are scheduled for demolition.

Examination of Water:

a) Mains Water:

Five samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Four were reported as satisfactory and one as unsatisfactory. Following flushing of the mains in the section of the district from which the unsatisfactory sample had been obtained, a further sample was taken and found to be satisfactory.

b) Well Water:

Seven samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Five were reported as satisfactory and two as unsatisfactory. The well from which the unsatisfactory samples were obtained served a farmhouse which has been made the subject of a demolition order.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

With the exception of isolated houses in East Wigston and the Kilby Bridge area, the drainage from all dwellings in the district is to public sewers.

Ten isolated dwellings and a public house are served by nine private septic tank and filter schemes. The septic tank and filter scheme to deal with the sewage from licensed premises was constructed during the year and enabled four pail closets to be converted to waterclosets and a watercloset to be installed in the occupiers bathroom.

The Council's Consulting Engineers are preparing a scheme for a new trunk sewer from the Wigston Fields area to the sewage disposal works and loan sanction will be sought during the next financial year in respect of the proposed extension to the sewage disposal works.

3. CESSPOOLS AND CLOSETS

There are no earth closets, privies or ash-pits in the district. During the year one cesspool was abolished and one constructed. There are twenty four cesspools, thirteen pail closets and approximately 8,300 waterclosets in the district. Twelve of the cesspools are emptied by means of the Council's Mechanical Cesspool/Gully Emptier at not more than fortnightly intervals, and other accessible ones on request.

4. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Due to the continued steady increase in the number of domestic and industrial premises, reduction of the dustmens' working week by 2 hours and the difficulty of obtaining and retaining adequate and suitable labour, the collection and disposal of domestic and trade refuse became more of a major problem to your Cleansing Superintendent.

It is regretted that the implementation of the paper sack system of refuse storage was rejected by the Council due to the estimated cost of operating it being higher than operating the existing bin system. The increase, however, would not be much more than 1½d per household per week. For this small extra outlay would result inter alia:-

- a) hygienic storage and handling of refuse
- b) dustless loading
- c) lessening of fatigue among the dustmen
- d) reduction of time between collections
- e) ensure hygienic storage during emergencies
by the provision of an extra sack

With the exception of the periods following holidays, a reasonably frequent collection of household refuse has been maintained. It must be remembered that when the dustmen are on holiday refuse continues to accumulate in the bins so that an extra burden is thrown on the men after the holidays. To maintain a seven day collection throughout the year, in spite of holidays, sickness and inclement weather etc., it would be necessary to have a labour force in excess of that needed to give such a service under normal conditions, and your Cleansing Superintendent has never been in that fortunate position.

A serious cause of delay to collections is the household with more than one dust bin of refuse per week. Bin contents could be appreciably reduced by the burning of some types of refuse on the domestic fire and composting of vegetable refuse in the house garden.

Householders in some cases place the blame for the short life of the dustbin on the dustmen, but with the modern collection vehicles now in use it is difficult for a dustman to damage a bin. Bin life is reduced by

- a) wet refuse and unwrapped vegetable refuse
- b) using the bin as an incinerator
- c) using the lid as a draught plate when lighting a domestic fire
- d) inadequate protection against the weather and standing the bin on other than a paved surface

Due to the 12 months delivery period for new refuse vehicles, an order has been placed this year for delivery of a third fore and aft tipping vehicle of 16 cu. yds. capacity for delivery in the financial year 1962/63. When it is delivered a third collection round will be instituted. If the present rate of house and industrial premise buildings is maintained, it will be necessary in approximately two years to increase the fleet of large collection vehicles to four to enable the three collection gangs to operate continuously and economically and the vehicles to receive proper maintenance and major overhauls.

The first layer filling of the last acre of the existing refuse tip is now completed but it is fortunate that the adjoining field, almost 5 acres in area is available for use and will provide tipping facilities for approximately nine years. In view of the present national shortage of land for use as refuse tips the recommendation of your Cleansing Superintendent some years ago to acquire this area of land is now revealed as a wise one, and he considers that a further area should be obtained as soon as possible.

Domestic and trade refuse is now composed principally of paper and cardboard, with a consequent reduction in hard materials such as cinders, clinker and ashes and increasing difficulty in maintaining the tip surfaces in a compact and tidy condition. The hydraulic power shovel used to compact and level the refuse has, however, proved an efficient and economical replacement for the manual workers formerly employed on the tip.

5. TRADE REFUSE

The removal of trade refuse from more than 100 premises at times places a strain on the refuse collection service which is a service essentially set up to remove household refuse. It is felt, however, that when industrialists etc., construct new factories and shops in the district, with consequent advantages to the ratepayers in general, an efficient trade refuse collection and disposal service

should be made available for them. To date no requests for the removal of trade refuse have been refused, but an indication of the work involved is the sum of £936 received in payment for this service during the year, £41 more than the preceding year.

6. SALE OF SALVAGED MATERIALS

The salvaging of paper, metals and textiles becomes less of a commercial proposition each year due to the reduced cost of wood pulp for paper making, and consequent reduction in prices paid for salvaged paper, the time to be spent sorting paper before baling to remove "contraries" such as cellophane, waxed paper and card, tarred paper etc., the presence of which in a bale may cause rejection of the bale, the decrease in prices paid for metals and the exchange by housewives of the more valuable woollen textiles to door to door collectors.

The sale of salvaged materials, however, realised £711. 9. 4. although the collection of small tins at the tip was discontinued.

| | Tons | Cwts | Qrs | Lbs |
|--------------------|------|------|-----|-----|
| Waste Paper | 112 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Textiles | 1 | 8 | 2 | 13 |
| Non-ferrous Metals | - | 2 | 1 | 26 |
| Scrap iron and tin | 18 | 15 | 2 | 0 |
| | 132 | 15 | 2 | 11 |

7. VEHICLES

Reconstruction of the Depot which includes a new garage and motor mechanical workshop is nearing completion and will enhance the life of the vehicles formerly stored in the open air and enable maintenance and overhauls to be carried out more easily. All the Council's vehicles and moveable plant continue to be serviced, repaired and maintained under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector/Cleansing Superintendent by one mechanic, but with the increase in the number of vehicles etc., it will be necessary in the near future to give at least some semi-skilled aid to the machanic.

The vehicles comprise:-

- 2 - 16/18 cubic yard refuse collection vehicles
- 1 - 8 -do- -do- -do-
- 2 - general purpose lorries
- 1 - gully/cesspool emptier
- 1 - mechanical road sweeper
- 2 - hydraulic loading shovels
- 1 - parks tractor - Landrover
- 1 - vibrating roller

In addition rollers, pumps, mowers etc., are also maintained.

8. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

714 Complaints were received
 201 Concerned infestations of rats or mice
 266 Concerned defective dustbins
 168 Concerned other public health or housing matters
 421 Premises were visited relating to
 832 nuisances or defects

Visits and inspections - Initial and Return:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Accumulations | 22 |
| Animals kept | 14 |
| Dustbins | 205 |
| Refuse collection | 129 |
| Refuse disposal tip | 340 |
| Motor repairs and main- tenance | 153 |
| Nuisances | 406 |
| Drainage inspections | 124 |
| Moveable dwellings | 5 |
| Clean Air Act | 74 |
| Housing | 471 |
| Improvement Grants | 119 |
| Certificates of Disrepair | 2 |
| Overcrowding | 4 |
| Dirty or Verminous premises | 49 |
| Water supply & Sampling | 19 |
| Milk sampling | 50 |
| Ice-cream sampling | 13 |
| Food premises | 254 |
| Meat & Food inspection | 202 |
| Rat and Mice destruction (including visits by Rodent Operator) | 733 |
| Slaughterhouses and Knacker Yards | 12 |
| Dairies and Milk Shops | 12 |
| Factories | 44 |
| Infectious disease, food poisoning and dysentery investigations - | 190 |
| National Assistance Act | 1 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Pets Act | 9 |
| Noise Abatement Act | 82 |
| Shops Act | 7 |
| Interviews - Phone | 396 |
| Others | 181 |
| Other inspections | 150 |
| Specimens collected (food poisoning, poliomyelitis research, dysentery etc.) | 102 |

NOTICES

| | <u>Housing</u> | <u>Public Health</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Outstanding 1st January | 16 | 19 |
| Issued during year | 43 | 352 |
| Complied with during year | 25 | 327 |
| Statutory action necessary | Nil | Nil |
| Outstanding on 31st December | 34 | 44 |

It is again pleasing to report that the successful sanitary administration of the district has been carried out in respect of public health work without recourse to statutory action.

Shops Act, 1950:

The provisions of the Act relating to the health and comfort of shop assistants are enforced by the Council and relate to :-

- Sanitary accommodation
- Temperature
- Ventilation
- Washing facilities
- Lighting
- Facilities for taking meals

These facilities and conditions are checked at food shops during inspections under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Regulated Buildings:

There are no common lodging houses or offensive trade establishments in the district. The "house let in lodgings" to three families in Countesthorpe Road and the lodging facilities available to single persons at two large houses in Saffron Road are very well conducted and satisfactory.

Under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which became operative on the 29th August, 1960, planning consent was obtained for the continued use of the land in Park Road as a caravan site for an indefinite period, and for the use of the land off Cook's Lane for a period expiring on the 25th December, 1961. In

consequence of this the Council authorised the issue of site licences to which were attached conditions based on the Model Standards made under the Act. One of the conditions was that not more than one caravan should be stationed on the site. These two caravans on permanent sites have again been supplemented by caravans owned by showmen wintering on the exempted site forming the Burgess Street fairground.

Dirty or Verminous premises:

Although 51 visits were made in respect of unclean or alleged unclean premises, no infestation by bugs or fleas was found.

Seven of the premises visited were Council houses where untidyness resulting from large families of young children, rather than dirty conditions was found. The majority of the tenants responded to advice and check inspection on progress made with cleaning and works of redecoration.

Thirty visits were made following complaints of infestations by ants, wasps and cockroaches. Wasps nests were only dealt with when in public places or at the premises of old or incapacitated persons.

Pet Animals Act, 1955:

The pet shop in Wigston Magna is very well conducted but the premises in South Wigston need almost constant supervision to obtain the maintenance of a minimum standard of tidyness and cleanliness. Fortunately no animals other than birds and fish are stocked at either of the premises.

9. FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960 & Food & Drugs Act, 1955

Progress has been maintained in the important work of safeguarding the town's food supply. The endeavours made in previous years can now be looked upon as having been worthwhile and successful, especially when the low incidence of illnesses arising from the consumption of "dirty food" is considered. There were only two single proved cases of food poisoning during the year, both caused by the ubiquitous organism salmonella typhi murium.

Beer may not be food to lots of people, but it is within the meaning of the Act, and in view of this, the licenced premises in the district receive the same supervision as premises occupied by the butcher or the baker.

Improvements at licenced premises have been less than in previous years for three main reasons.

First, after the initial burst of works being completed at premises where the owners were co-operative and had funds available, the less co-operative owners are now having to be persuaded that the improvements are necessary.

Second, the companies owning licenced premises work on yearly estimates and out of sight works, such as cellar or behind the bar improvements are often deleted at estimate time, in favour of works more conducive to attracting custom than furthering hygiene.

Finally for almost a quarter of the year the post of Additional Public Health Inspector was vacant.

The following works had been completed at the end of the year.

| | |
|---|---|
| Cellar sinks fitted | 1 |
| Sterilizer/detergent dispensers fitted over wash sinks | 3 |
| Premises at which new sanitary accommodation has been provided | 1 |
| Premises at which sanitary accommodation was improved or repaired | 3 |
| Premises at which counter shelves and tables were renewed or resurfaced | 6 |
| Replacement of worn fittings | 1 |
| General repairs effected | 4 |
| Cellars cleansed and redecorated | 3 |
| First aid boxes and equipment provided | 5 |

OTHER FOOD PREMISES

| <u>Premises inspected</u> | <u>Visits made</u> | <u>Served</u> | <u>Notices Complied</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Butchers & cooked meat shops | 34 | 4 | 5 |
| Grocers & General Shops | 42 | 9 | 7 |
| Fishmongers & Fried Fish shops | 13 | 1 | 2 |
| Greengrocers shops | 12 | 1 | 2 |
| Flour & sugar confectioners shops | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| Cafes, canteens & restuarants | 48 | 10 | 6 |
| Bakehouses | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Dairies | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Slaughterhouses | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Mobile shops | 16 | 6 | 2 |

The following list indicates the nature and type of the various improvements effected.

| | |
|--|----|
| New businesses established | 4 |
| Washing facilities provided | 8 |
| Hot water supply provided | 8 |
| New equipment washing sinks provided | 2 |
| Walls or ceilings resurfaced | 4 |
| Floors repaired or resurfaced | 7 |
| Rooms redecorated or cleansed | 19 |
| Equipment cleansed | 1 |
| Counters, tables, shelves resurfaced | 2 |
| Cloths lockers provided | 1 |
| Refrigerators provided | 1 |
| Protective covers for food provided | 3 |
| New cutting boards provided | 1 |
| New butchers blocks provided | 1 |
| First-aid kit provided | 1 |
| "Wash hand" notices exhibited | 2 |
| General Repairs | 2 |
| New sanitary accommodation for patrons | 1 |

The new businesses established were two cafes, a grocery and general store and a sugar and flour confectionery shop. One cafe closed during the year. The owner of a food shop acceded to a request that the preparation of hot dogs in the scullery of house in which personal and domestic washing was done, should be discontinued.

Ice Cream:

77 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream, all of which is pre-packed. No ice-cream is manufactured at these premises. A new method of vending ice-cream is now being used in the district. Reconstitution of a complete cold mix ice-cream powder, using cold water only is carried out in a combined mixer and freezer, contained in the vehicle from which the ice-cream is sold. As the vehicle is not "premises" it cannot be made subject to registration as can a shop from which ice-cream is sold. The premises in which the vehicle and ingredients are stored and the equipment from the vehicle cleansed and sterilized escapes registration under existing legislation as no ice-cream is made or stored there. The premises are new and provided with suitable cleansing and sterilising equipment, good storage accommodation and the whole business conducted in a satisfactory manner. The vehicles are of excellent type and satisfy the requirements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960. This method of vending and manufacturing soft ice-cream is now in use in most towns and I consider that legislation should be introduced requiring the registration with the local authority of all mobile shops.

12 samples of ice-cream were obtained during the year, and the bacteriological examination resulted in the following grading:-

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Grade I | 12 |
| Grade II | Nil |
| Grade III | Nil |
| Grade IV | Nil |

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960

| <u>Dairies and Distributors</u> | <u>Dairies</u> | <u>Distributors</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Number in register | 1 | 25 |

Milk Samples:

60 samples of bottled milk were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory.

6 samples were of raw Tuberculin Tested milk.
24 Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)
19 Pasteurised
11 Sterilised

Only two samples, one of pasteurised and one of sterilised milk were reported as unsatisfactory.

Dirty Milk Bottle:

Following identification of "dirt" in a full bottle of milk as the pupa of the insect DROSEPHILA BUSKII commonly known as the Vinegar or Filth Fly, this information was sent to the local authority in whose area the milk had been bottled, for appropriate action.

The fly lays its eggs in the milk residue in bottles which have remained unrinsed for some time, and the resultant pupa are not removed by the cleansing action of most bottle washing machines.

In view of this happening and to help the milk industry in the difficult task of maintaining the high standard of cleanliness necessary to ensure a good milk supply, I appeal to the public to rinse milk bottles in water as soon as they are emptied and refrain from placing in them flowers, paint, paraffin etc.

Meat and Other Foods Inspection

Slaughterhouses:

Neither of the Slaughterhouses in the district had been brought up to the standards required by the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) and The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958 by the appointed day and both premises were closed. Messrs. E.J. and F. Freckingham, 22, Long Street, Wigston, had intimated that their slaughterhouse will not be re-opened, but Messrs. P. & E. Rawlinson, 2 and 4, Dunton Street, Wigston, are to bring their premises up to the required standards in the manner set out in schedules of work sent to them in 1959.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|---|-----------------------------|------|--------|------------------|-------|--------|
| Number killed (if known) | 343 | - | 4 | 1986 | 475 | - |
| Number inspected | 343 | - | 4 | 1986 | 475 | - |
| <u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u> | | | | | | |
| Wholse carcases condemned | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 29 | - | - | 37 | 11 | - |
| Percent age of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis | 8.45% | - | - | 1.86% | 2.31% | - |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 0.29% | - | - | - | 0.21% | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Disposal of condemned food:

The following foods were surrendered, condemned and disposed of by deep burial at the Council's Refuse Tip.

171 tins Vegetables
262 tins Fruit
198 tins Tomatoes
74 tins Meat
44 tins Soup
58 tins Fish
7 tins Rice Pudding
15 jars Mayonnaise
1 Chicken
180 lbs Bacon

47 - 2d Coconut confections manufactured by a firm in Abergavenny and sold for distribution for retail sale to a Leicester firm of wholesalers were recovered from shops in the Wigston area and burned. This action was taken on receipt of information from the Leicester City Public Health Department that organism of salmonella para-typhoid B had been isolated from a batch of these confections sold in the City.

10. KNACKER YARD

There is one knacker yard in the district and it is well conducted. During the year, however, the attention of the owners had to be directed to the need for more efficient staining with an approved stain, of meat being sold to pet shops for cat and dog meat. Such staining is required under the provisions of The Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960, to indicate that the meat is from a knacker yard and prevent its sale for human consumption.

11. NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Under this Act noise or vibration which is a nuisance (it need not be prejudicial to health) shall be a statutory nuisance within the meaning of the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act, 1936. The Act also imposes restrictions on the use of loud speakers in a street. It has been found necessary to administer the Act, in the light of experience, with some reserve, and viewing carefully all facets of each complaint for inter alia the following reasons:-

- i. the Act does not, and in my opinion could not, define the level ascertained by mechanical measurement, at which a noise or vibration becomes a nuisance. A high frequency noise in a built up, busy area of the town may be rendered less noticeable by other back-ground noises; but the same noise or vibration in a less busy and quieter area may be so noticeable as to cause a nuisance. Personal susceptibility to noise has a bearing on

nuisance value. In other words what may be a nuisance to someone living in a Cotswold village may go unnoticed in the centre of a busy town.

- ii. the Act, due to the abstract nature of its subject matter can be cited by cranks, who will complain about anything including birds singing in a tree.

The problems resulting from the Act become more apparent when the list of complaints received during the year, and set out below, are studied. How is one to reduce noise caused by the fabrication of tanks etc., from $\frac{1}{2}$ " iron plate in an open yard? Are Church Bells the cause of a nuisance?

| <u>Cause of noise or vibration</u> | <u>Result of Action</u> |
|--|--|
| Keeping of cockerels | Fowls removed |
| Refrigerator motor | Separate motor placed in sub-floor space. |
| Shop door bell | Bell removed |
| Plate metal fabrication at two factories | Insulation of factory walls and shutting slide doors. |
| Ventilation Fan | Baffle plate fitted between fan and house. |
| Circular saw in open air | Saw placed in building and hours of work res- tricted. Business eventually closed by Planning Authority. |
| Telephone wires attached to house | Wires resited to prevent wind vibrating them. |
| Omnibus engines at stop 17 yards from house | No nuisance |
| Musical chimes on ice-cream vehicle | No nuisance |

30 visits were made in respect of these complaints, 4 informal notices served, all of which were complied with.

12. RODENT CONTROL

699 inspections were made by the Rodent Operator and the Public Health Inspectors in connection with the destruction of rats and mice. The principal work of the Public Health Inspectors under this heading is in the testing and examination of drains to ascertain defects in drains and sewers through which rats can enter and leave the conduits and advising occupiers of premises on methods to be adopted to prevent infestations or re-infestations. The garden shed or the garage with a wooden floor laid directly on, or only a few inches above the ground

surface constitutes ideal living accommodation under the floor for vermin. All such floors should be raised on brick or concrete pillars at least twelve inches above ground level and the space so formed kept clear of materials and rubbish. The privately owned Gamble's Farm Allotments, South Wigston, are still a source of worry as due to the presence of piggeries, fowl pens, growing and stored crops and a brook the environment for the breeding of rats and mice is ideal. There has been an improvement, however, recently in the efforts made by certain of the pig and poultry keepers to check the breeding of rats.

The town's sewers were treated for the destruction of rats in accordance with Ministry requirements, and recommendations, on two occasions during the year in the months of May and October.

Surface Treatment 1961:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Approximate number of properties to be protected | <u>7,561</u> |
|---|--------------|

No of properties inspected as
a result of

| | |
|---|-----|
| a) Notification | 201 |
| b) Survey under the Act | 33 |
| c) When visited for some other purpose | Nil |

No of properties found to be
infested:

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| a) Rats: | |
| Major infestations | 3 |
| Minor infestations | 141 |
| b) Mice: | |
| Major infestations | 2 |
| Minor infestations | 42 |

(an infestation estimated to exceed 20 rats or mice is classified as a major infestation)

Types of premises infested:

| | |
|---|------------|
| i) Council properties | 23 |
| ii) Dwelling houses including Council houses | 125 |
| iii) Business premises | 38 |
| iv) Agricultural premises | <u>63</u> |
| | <u>249</u> |

13. HOUSING

For the third year in succession only a little progress has been made on the completion of the Slum

Clearance programme due to the inability of the Council to obtain land on which to erect new dwellings.

During the latter part of the year there was a reappraisal of the houses remaining to be dealt with on the schedule submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1955, under the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This was done after inspection of the houses by the Sub-Standard Housing Sub-Committee. As a result of the reappraisal 76 houses and 5 shops out of the 324 houses and 8 shops remaining to be dealt with were declared to be unfit but capable of repair at a reasonable expense and should be dealt with pursuant to sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act 1957. Whilst abiding by the decision neither the Medical Officer of Health or the Chief Public Health Inspector agreed with it and both the Sub-Committee and the Health Committee were made aware by the Chief Public Health Inspector of the limitations and implications of the sections, and in particular the difficulty the Council would be faced with in recovering from the owners the cost of carrying out repair works in default. Very few, if any, of the houses are of a type suitable for grant-aided improvements under the Standard or Discretionary Grant Schemes.

a) Clearance Areas declared during the year:

| | <u>Houses</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| No.30 - 61 to 69 Leicester Road | 5 | Order Confirmed |
| No.31 - 8 to 16 Moat Street | 4 | Order Confirmed |
| No.32 - 1 to 3 Moat Street | 2 | Order Confirmed |
| No.33 - 1 to 6 Railway Cottages | 6 | Order Confirmed |
| No.34 - 2 to 32 Park Road | 16 | Order not yet made |
| No.35 - 13 to 25 Moat Street | 7 | Order not yet made |
| No.36 - 71 to 83 Moat Street | 6 | Order not yet made |
| No.37 - Almshouses, Long Street | <u>11</u> <u>57</u> | Order not yet confirmed |

b) Individual unfit houses dealt with:

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| 110, Leicester Road | 1 | Demolished |
| 21 to 25, Long Street | 3 | Two families rehoused |
| Tythorn Farm House | 1 | Tenant not yet rehoused |
| | <u>5</u> | |

c) Demolition during the year of houses in:-

i) Clearance Areas:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| No. 29 - 1 to 5 Spa Lane | 3 |
| No. 30 - 61 to 69 Leicester Road | <u>5</u> <u>8</u> |

ii) Individual unfit houses:

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 110, Leicester Road | 1 |
| 27 and 29, Moat Street | <u>2</u> |
| | <u>3</u> |

Overcrowding:

No cases of overcrowding were reported or found during the year.

Improvement Grants - Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958, House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959:

| | <u>Discretionary Grants</u> | <u>Standard Grants</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| No. of premises inspected | 29 | 3 |
| No. of applications received | 18 | 3 |
| No. of applications approved | 18 | 5 |
| No. of applications refused | Nil | Nil |
| No. of schemes completed during year | 22 | 2 |

16 of the applications received were in respect of owner/occupied houses and 5 in respect of tenanted houses.

Of the 24 schemes completed during the year only 7 of the houses were rented and these were a terrace owned by one person.

New Houses:

The numbers in brackets relate to the year 1960 and are included for comparison with the current years figures.

| | | |
|---|-------|-----|
| Total No. of applicants for Council houses at end of year | (408) | 398 |
| Applications received during year | (156) | 177 |

Programme of Local Authority houses:

| | | |
|---|-------|-----|
| Erected during year | (nil) | Nil |
| In course of erection at end of year | (nil) | Nil |

Programme of private enterprise houses:

| | | |
|---|-------|-----|
| Erected during year | (363) | 337 |
| In course of erection at end of year | (238) | 243 |

Total No. of Post-war houses completed:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|------|
| Local Authority | (935) | 935 |
| Private Enterprise | (1984) | 2321 |

14. FACTORIES

There are 141 factories on the register.

a) Inspections:

| <u>Premises</u> | <u>No. of in- spections</u> | <u>Notices served</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Factories with mechanical power | 44 | 6 |
| Building sites etc. | <u>4</u> <u>48</u> | <u>Nil</u> <u>6</u> |

b) Outworkers:

Outworkers are employed by firms engaged in the manufacture of footwear, hosiery, corsetry, underwear and outerwear, and stationery.

The No. of outworkers employed during the 6 months preceding August 1961, was as follows:-

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of local firms employing outworkers | 16 |
| No. of local outworkers employed by such firms | 83 |
| No. of outworkers outside district employed by local firms | 112 |
| No. of outside firms employing local outworkers | 28 |
| No. of local outworkers employed by such firms | 50 |
| No. of outworkers in district | 133 |

The various trades carried on at factories in the Urban area are as follows:-

| | |
|--|----|
| Agricultural Machine repairing | 2 |
| Baking | 2 |
| Blazer Badge making | 1 |
| Biscuit manufacture | 1 |
| Boat Building | 1 |
| Boot & Shoe manufacture and incidental trades | 9 |
| Boot & Shoe repairing | 3 |
| Boot and shoe lace making | 1 |
| Building and Joinery | 10 |
| Carton adaptation and repairing | 1 |
| Cycle repairing | 3 |
| Cotton waste and bobbin recovering | 1 |
| Drum and Instrument making | 1 |
| Electrical component making | 1 |
| Electro plating | 1 |
| Electric vehicle making | 1 |
| Engineering (general) | 11 |
| Football jersey and stocking making | 1 |
| Furniture making | 1 |
| Furniture repairing | 1 |
| Gas undertaking | 1 |
| Grain Dryers | 1 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Heating element making | 1 |
| Hosiery making, dyeing and finishing | 29 |
| Ice-cream making | 1 |
| Iron founding | 1 |
| Jersey fabric making | 1 |
| Knacker | 1 |
| Knitted outerwear making | 1 |
| Salt packing | 1 |
| Sausage and cooked meat making and preparing | 5 |
| Slaughtering | 1 |
| Tailoring | 1 |
| Woodworking and care repairing | 2 |
| Wood last making | 1 |
| Wool packing | 1 |
| Waterways maintenance | 1 |
| Plant hire | 1 |
| Babywear making | 1 |
| Corset making | 1 |
| Laundering | 1 |
| Milk pasteurising | 1 |
| Motor vehicle repairing and maintenance | 17 |
| Non-ferrous metal foundries | 1 |
| Paper baling | 1 |
| Pattern making | 3 |
| Plastic moulding | 1 |
| Precast concrete manufacture | 1 |
| Printers | 3 |
| Radio and Television receiver repairing | 4 |
| Railway waggon repairing | 1 |

15. CLEAN AIR ACT

There are only 5 factory chimneys in the district from which excessive amounts of smoke are emitted fairly regularly.

Whilst pin pointing emissions of smoke from industrial boilers the fact must not be lost sight of that the smoke emitted from the ubiquitous household chimney contributes more to the pollution of the atmosphere than that emitted from factory chimneys. With the declaration of Smoke Control in the City of Leicester and Rural District of Blaby, consideration will have to be given in the near future to similar action in Wigston. With this matter in mind I regret that the Council did not act on my recommendation set out in the Annual Report as long ago as 1957, and subsequently referred to from time to time at Health Committee meetings, that the Building Byelaws should be amended to limit the provision of heating and cooking appliances in new buildings to those designed for burning gas, electricity or approved solid smokeless fuels. No grant aid for conversions of appliances is available in respect of houses built after 5th July, 1956, when the area in which they are situated is declared a Smoke Control Area.

46 visits were made to 13 premises to check boiler plant, firing methods, types of fuel etc.

Excessive emissions of smoke were noted from 5 premises.

Informal notices were served on 4 firms and in 5 instances nuisances were abated by one of the following means :-

- Grit arrestor modified and screen fitted
- Inefficient stoker replaced
- Waste paper being burned in open air now taken to controlled tip
- Oil sawdust used as a supplementary fuel now collected as trade refuse
- Confidential papers burnt in boiler and escaping from chimney as charred pieces now collected as trade refuse in sealed sacks and buried at tip.

During the year 6 new furnaces were fitted in connection with space heating or industrial processing. 3 were fitted with oil, 2 with coal by underfeed stokers and 1 a combined incinerator and hot air furnace with hardboard offcuts, oil being used as a supplementary fuel.

16. STAFF

As referred to in previous reports the efficient working of the department is hindered by not having a full time typist receptionist.

During the Organisation and Method Review, this inadequacy of staff was noted and remarked upon by the investigator.

Mr. T.H. Owen, Additional Public Health Inspector appointed on the 1st April, 1960, resigned on the 29th November, 1961, upon obtaining the post of Chief Public Health Inspector with the Municipal Council of Dar Es Salaam, Tanganyika.

Mr. Peter Anthony Shaw commenced training in the department as a pupil Public Health Inspector on the 13th February, 1961.

ANNEX IFACTORIES ACT 1937 to 1959Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1937PART I1. INSPECTIONS

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 6 | 4 | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 135 | 44 | 6 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) | - | - | - | - |
| | 141 | 48 | 6 | - |

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--------------------------------|---|----------|---------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Insp. | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Lack of cleanliness (S.1) | | | | | |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | | | | | |
| Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) | | | | | |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | | | | | |

APPENDIX I (Continued)

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were institute |
|--|---|----------|---------------|---------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Insp. | By H.M. Insp. | |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | | | Nil | | |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 5 | 4 | - | - | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | | | Nil | | |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork | | | Nil | | |
| Total | 6 | 5 | - | - | - |

PART VIII
Outwork
(Sections 110 & 111)
Section 110
Section 110

Section 111

| Nature of Work | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices Prosecuted served out-ions |
|---|---|---|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Mending) Making apparel etc. Cleaning and Darning | 131 | - | - | - | - |

APPENDIX 'A'

I am indebted to the Engineer & Surveyor to the Wigston Urban District Council for the following report:-

RAINFALL IN 1961

At WIGSTON U.D.C. Sewage Farm
in the County of Leicestershire

Diameter of Funnel 8 inches
Height of top of gauge above
ground 9 inches
Height of ground above sea
level 259 ft

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Total Depth Inches</u> | <u>Greatest Fall in 24 hours</u> | | <u>Number of Days with</u> | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | <u>Inches</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>.01 or more</u> | <u>.04 or more</u> |
| January | 2.45 | .37 | 31 | 23 | 17 |
| February | 1.87 | .42 | 28 | 16 | 11 |
| March | 0.22 | .08 | 29 & 30 | 4 | 3 |
| April | 3.16 | .60 | 6 | 20 | 14 |
| May | 0.52 | .20 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| June | 0.76 | .25 | 12 | 9 | 6 |
| July | 2.20 | .65 | 12 | 13 | 8 |
| August | 1.89 | .44 | 7 | 16 | 14 |
| September | 1.93 | .60 | 26 | 14 | 8 |
| October | 2.19 | .44 | 19 | 21 | 13 |
| November | 2.26 | .69 | 10 | 18 | 12 |
| December | <u>3.31</u> | .95 | 29 | <u>18</u> | <u>12</u> |
| | <u>22.76</u> | | | <u>178</u> | <u>122</u> |

